

Western Canada.

ISSUED UNDER DIRECTION OF THE

HON. CLIFFORD SIFTON, Minister of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada,

17, VICTORIA STREET, LONDON.

Homes for Britishers.

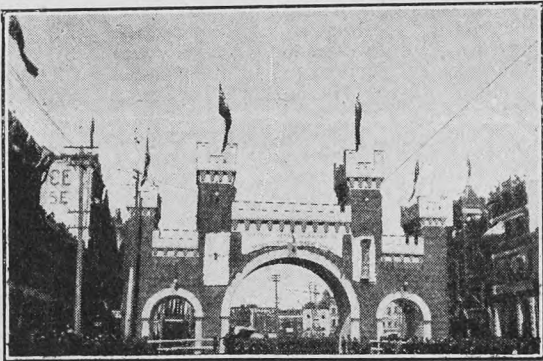
**IN WESTERN CANADA
MILLIONS OF ACRES OF
FERTILE LAND**

**Ready for the Plow. 160 Acres
of Land Given Free to every
Settler. Low Steamship
and Railroad Rates.**

**BUT LITTLE CAPITAL REQUIRED.
MEN WILLING TO WORK ACHIEVE
SUCCESS.**

THE success of farming in Canada is now so assured that it is without hesitation the Canadian Government places before the people of Great Britain and Ireland the advantages that Canada possesses for the agriculturist and the man who, with a desire to improve his condition, is willing that his energies should be devoted to a farm life. It was with the view of more fully disseminating information concerning Canada, and bringing forward its claims for the emigration of the residents of Great Britain to Canada, that the Hon. Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior of Canada, was recently prompted to send Mr. James A. Smart, the Deputy Minister of the Interior, and Mr. W. J. White, another official of the Department, to London. At the date of writing these gentlemen are in the country, and express themselves as pleased with the large number who show an anxiety to commence life anew in the agricultural districts of Canada. By the time, however, this reaches the hands of the reader they will have returned to their duties in Canada; but all inquiries for information will be gladly and fully answered by making application to Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Commissioner of Emigration, 17, Victoria Street, London, or any of the agents whose names appear elsewhere in this paper. Agriculture in all its branches, whether it be mixed farming, ranching (the raising of horses and cattle), dairy industry, the growing of wheat, oats, and barley, is a positive success, and is no experiment. The score of letters published elsewhere in this paper gives the evidence of farmers who have had the experience and are anxious that the public of Great Britain should profit by it. The publication of letters of this kind is more satisfactory than any other statement that can be made.

It might be advisable for those who desire any further evidence to write to any of these people, who it is believed will be glad to answer questions.



Winnipeg Wheat Arch. Prince of Wales's late Visit.

Illimitable in Resources.

The people of Great Britain have been so long accustomed to see Canada figure on the maps as a narrow strip, with scattered villages and towns along the St. Lawrence and the great lakes, with innumerable smaller lakes and rivers, that it is difficult for them to realize that a territory as large as the whole world of Europe has risen in the western hemisphere, and, like a young giant, set about making a glorious

future for itself, building up great manufactories, levelling the mountains, filling up the valleys, bridging the rivers of the continent, digging canals, constructing thousands of miles of railroad whereby to consolidate its empire and make accessible its boundless national resources of timber, mines, and agricultural lands. To-day these great plains are being settled with a thrifty, prosperous, and satisfied class of people. The ignorance that has existed in the past respecting that portion of Canada known as "Western Canada" is rapidly diminishing, and to-day no part of the American Continent is receiving so much attention at the hands of those desiring new homes in an agricultural district, with the great possibilities that are there for development in manufacturing, ranching, and mining.

It will be interesting to refer to the extent of the vast unsettled portions of the territory known as "Western Canada," which holds out inducements to the man dissatisfied with his present lot, having but little prospects of relief from burdensome taxes, from unproductive farms and excessive rents, with no hope of ever owning a home that he may call his own; or to the man who lives in a congested district, his family growing up, his sons and daughters approaching manhood and womanhood, and he with but little in the way of temporal acquisitions.

"Western Canada" stretches along a line immediately north of the United States, having as its eastern and western boundaries the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans respectively, while to the north it embraces all the territory stretching to the Arctic Ocean. It also includes the Province of British Columbia, with its vast mineral wealth, only a small portion of which has been developed.

any of the blessings of educated life, or shall I be forever shut out from all congenial society?" This country is, so far, settled with many of the best families of the countries whence they emigrated. It is nothing surprising to find college graduates working their own farms, and the most experienced agriculturists, mechanics, merchants, and men of all callings in the country towns and villages.

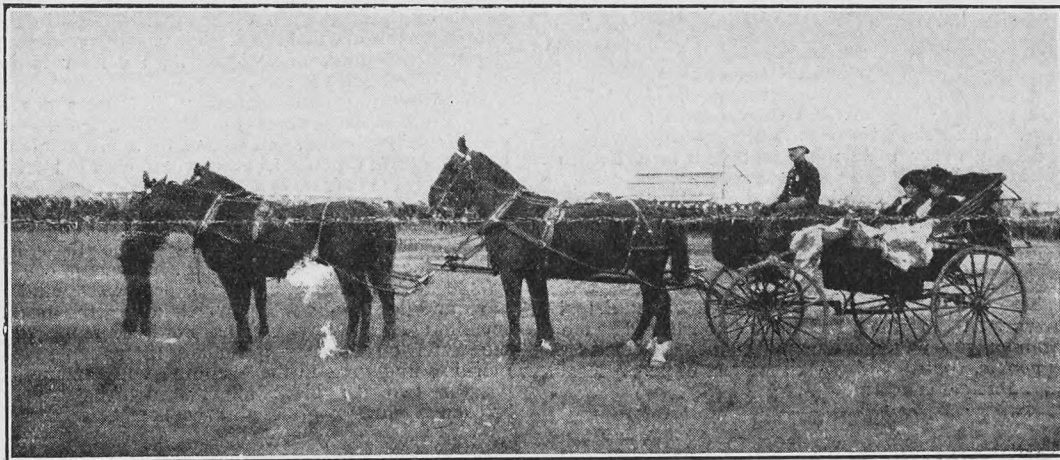
There is nothing lacking in town and country to make life enjoyable that could be expected in any new country.

Amusements and Sports.

During the busy spring, summer, and autumn farmers have little time to devote to social gatherings and amusements. The winter affords more leisure and better opportunities for such enjoyments. The new settler has little time for amusements which would take him long away from his farm and stock in winter. Those who have got over the initial difficulties of newly settling amuse themselves in every variety of way, according to taste. In summer, picnics, horse-racing, riding, driving, bicycling, shooting, boating, canoeing, fishing, football, cricket, lacrosse, baseball, golf, lawn tennis, and croquet are all mentioned; also duck shooting in spring and deer hunting in fall. Dances, concerts, amateur theatricals, literary, debating, and other societies' meetings, card parties, and other indoor amusements are enjoyed in winter.

Religion.

There is no State Church in Canada, and the utmost religious liberty prevails. Newly arrived adherents of nearly all denominations will have no difficulty in finding congenial church society. Churches and chapels are numerous and widely distributed.



The late Visit of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

A Country of Magnificent Distances.

A World in Itself, where Contentment and Happiness are the lot of the Settler.

The Dominion of Canada comprises an area of 3,450,383 square miles, made up as follows: Western Canada comprises the Province of Manitoba, and the Districts of Assiniboia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Keewatin, and Athabasca, having an area of 760,000 square miles, in addition to which there are the North-west Territories and the islands in the Arctic Ocean and Hudson's Bay, with an additional area of 1,700,800 square miles. The Districts of Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and Athabasca alone constitute a region larger than all Russia in Europe. There was a time when this vast region was supposed to be fit only for the habitation of the beaver, the buffalo, and the bear; but that day is past, as since the movement of immigration westward it has been demonstrated that this region contains the finest wheat and grazing lands in the world. This does not apply only to the comparatively well-known Province of Manitoba and the Districts of Assiniboia and Alberta, but to the whole region lying four hundred miles northward of the Canadian Pacific Railway, and as far up as the Peace River country, which not only produces wheat which is known as "No. 1 hard," but is rich in minerals.

The purpose of this paper is to deal more particularly with that portion of Western Canada lying between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains, as it is to that vast district the attention of agriculturists in all parts of the world is at present being chiefly directed. Here are to be found millions of acres of rich, fertile lands, requiring but little previous knowledge of farming on the part of the settler in order to obtain handsome returns for his efforts in tilling the soil.

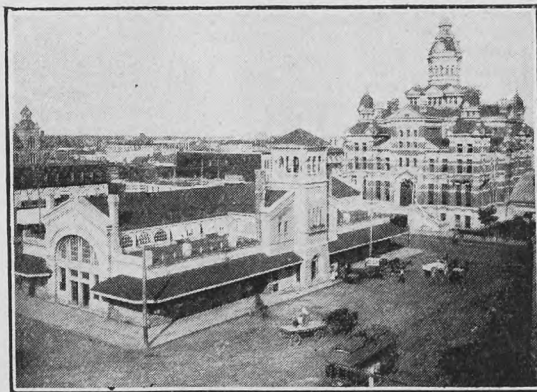
The Social Aspects of Life in Canada.

Very naturally, an intending settler with a family will inquire, "What are the social conditions of the country? If I locate in Western Canada, shall I enjoy

Educational Facilities.

An important consideration for a settler here, as elsewhere, is the educational facilities available; and the school system of Manitoba and the Western Territories is, by educationists, claimed to be equal to any on the continent. In Manitoba the rural schools are about every three miles or so apart in the settled districts, and the system is free. There is no taxation of pupils for attendance. The Government makes an annual grant of a considerable sum to each school, and all the expenses, teacher's salary included, are paid by this grant, and a general taxation of the land within the district, whether occupied or unoccupied, or owned by parents, or those having no children. This assures the poor all the advantages of primary education that are enjoyed by the rich. The figures show, on the average, one teacher for every 240 people and for every forty children.

The schools are non-sectarian, and are national in character, and the secular branches and general public morality are alone taught during regular school hours, religion being taught, when desired, during hours set apart for the purpose.



Winnipeg City Hall and Market.

The Game of Western Canada.

Splendid Sport, Shooting and Fishing. Game.

Game is to be found either rare or plentiful, according to locality, season, and circumstances. The most plentiful are ducks of many varieties, the grouse (generally called prairie chicken), and the hare, known as the rabbit. To these add, in lesser numbers, geese, swans, loons, pelicans, cranes, partridges, snipe, plover; moose, red, blacktailed, and other deer; and of the furry tribe.

There are sturgeon, catfish, and trout in the Saskatchewan River; pike, pickerel, carp, and gold eyes occur in that and other streams and lakes. In several lakes the beautiful and nutritious whitefish abound.



Home of an English farmer who began life in Western Canada on small means.

An Excellent Form of Government.

(Voting Power is Given to all Male Residents of Full Age.)

Canada's affairs are conducted by a Federal Government which is subject to legislative control by a Parliament representing the whole Dominion. Each province has its local Government and legislature. The Franchise confers the voting power on practically every male inhabitant who is a British subject and twenty-one years of age.

The Governor General is appointed by the King, and a Lieutenant-Governor for each of the Provinces and the Western Territories are the Executive heads of Government.

Municipal System.

There is generally a perfect system of municipal government in the Provinces constituting the Dominion, by which municipal councils, elected by the people, control and govern matters of purely local and municipal concern.

Climate of Western Canada.

The climate of Western Canada, as described by those who have lived there for some years, is said to be very agreeable. Disease is little known, while epidemics are unheard of. Spring commences about the first of April. Some seasons, however, seeding is begun early in March, the snow having entirely disappeared. But spring scarcely puts in an appearance before it is followed by summer, and it is almost impossible to describe the delights of that pleasant season, with its long days and cool nights. It is in this fact we find an explanation of the extraordinarily rapid growth of vegetation, which, under the influence of this long-continued sunshine, exceeds anything known in lower latitudes. The soft maple tree has been known to grow more than five feet in a single season.

The autumn season is one of the most delightful that can be imagined. It extends into the month of November, snow sometimes not falling until late in December, giving the farmer the opportunity of finishing up his threshing, completing the marketing of his thousands of bushels of No. 1 hard wheat, and leaving him sufficient time to put his land in condition for the crop of the following year.



Cattle in Western Canada.

As for the winters, they entirely lose the dread with which timorous people have regarded them, after a single experience. It is difficult to obtain from the reading of a record of temperature any idea of the comforts or discomforts that prevail. It is well known that humidity is of equal importance, probably

of greater importance, while the velocity of the wind is also no less important.

Everything in Canada is in proper keeping for the development of the combined physical and mental energies of man. There are to be found at once the hardihood of character which conquers difficulties, the climate which stimulates exertion, and the natural advantages which reward enterprise. Nature has marked out this country for exalted destinies.

No one particular in her category of advantages is more effective as an instrument to enable Canada to take the position thus declared by an eminent authority to be hers in the future than her climate.

In the districts of Alberta and Saskatchewan the winter climate is comparatively mild, not severe; blizzards are unknown, and stock winter in the open air and come out fat and in good condition in the spring.

It might be well to illustrate here the effect of the almost perpetual sunshine on the staple article of the

country, namely, wheat. The wheat of Western Canada is well known to be extremely hard, the yield also being from 30 to 50 per cent. more than in the States south of the boundary line. The principal causes for this are that the farther you travel towards the northern limit of its growth, the finer is the quality of the soil you find.

In the spring and summer wild flowers are as common as in England, and in August wild fruits and delicate ferns abound. Of course, there are good and bad seasons in Canada, as everywhere else, but taken altogether, the climate is a decidedly good one.

The winter goes, as it comes, almost in a day. The crescent sun pours his powerful rays through the transparent atmosphere, and, when the thaw has begun, the great atmospheric disturbances, caused by the heated centres, cause the northwest wind to blow and lick up the water, which covers the plains, seemingly all in a day. One has not infrequently seen the water on the low ground a foot deep in the morning and gone in the evening; while in another day or two the black alluvium, which, like the blackened plate of glass, absorbs heat in seemingly



Western Canada's Golden Grain.

enormous quantities, is dry and powdery on the fields plowed in the autumn. Seeding proceeds when the frost is not more than four inches out of the ground. Then in a few days the prairie is dotted with spring flowers. Seldom is the spring long, damp, and cold. Spring comes, growth is phenomenal, and the harvest of spring wheat is ripened in the middle of August. With such a soil, marvellous in the amount of its plant foods, and with the long, bright, even occasionally hot, summer day, the transformation of the plant cells is so rapid as only to be likened to the growth of plants under glass.

THE WORLD'S BREAD BASKET IS WESTERN CANADA.

Western Canada is a country practically unknown to a great many who have not had their attention directed to it. In fact, it is not long since a great American writer, in an article on "The Wheat Supply of Europe and America," made the statement that to the north of the international boundary there is only a narrow fringe of land capable of producing wheat. In reply to this another writer, better informed as to facts, said that wheat could be successfully grown at Fort Simpson, a Hudson's Bay Company's post lying

at the junction of the Laird and Mackenzie rivers, near the intersection of longitude 122 degs. west and latitude 62 degs. north, or nearly 800 miles north of the boundary line between the United States and Canada, and as far north-west of Winnipeg (the metropolis of Western Canada) as Winnipeg is north-west of New York. Not only is it possible to raise wheat at this degree of latitude, and that of a better quality than it is possible to grow in any other country, but two hundred miles north of that point rye and oats are grown; whilst two hundred miles still farther north barley and potatoes are successfully produced.

RAILWAYS.

Nearly every farming district is within easy access of one of the lines of railway, while branches are being extended as the conditions of settlement demand.

The splendid Saskatchewan Valley has been opened recently by two new lines. Others are projected, including one in the direction of Hudson's Bay, in anticipation of the route between Hudson's Straits and Liverpool becoming available. The Canadian Pacific Railway's lines in Southern Manitoba and Eastern Assiniboia have also been extended, securing the opening of the Souris coal fields and an unlimited supply of cheap fuel to the settlers.

WHERE MARKETS ARE TO BE FOUND.

Hitherto the markets of China and Japan, New Zealand, Australasia, India, and the Pacific coast of South America have been closed to Canada, but access has been gained to them under improved conditions, which give Canada advantages of time and distance over all other countries.

Then for an Eastern market the low rates charged for hauling grain and cattle to the Atlantic seaboard gives to the producer on the plains and wheat fields of Western Canada the closest, speediest, and cheapest connection with the markets of the Old World.

In addition to this there are the extensive mining districts of British Columbia and the Yukon, where there is a demand for the foodstuffs of Manitoba, Assiniboia, Saskatchewan, and Alberta, giving to the producer an ever-increasing market.

FUEL.

Besides the large tracts of forest, both in and adjacent to Manitoba, there are coal areas within and contiguous to the province of such extent as to be practically inexhaustible. The principal farming districts of Western Canada are within easy reach of firewood, while the farmer of Alberta, Assiniboia, and Saskatchewan is especially favored, on account of his being able to go to the banks of the rivers and from there get all the coal he requires, in some cases at the bare cost of handling and hauling it home.

TAXATION.

In Western Canada the rate of taxation is low; it is only a few cents per acre, where the settlers do not impose burdens on themselves, and under all circumstances is but a fraction of that in other parts of the continent and in Europe.

The Average Yield of Wheat in Western Canada.

Always an assured crop. Easily grown and at little cost.

The average yield of wheat varies under different conditions. In some years the average has been over thirty bushels per acre, while in others it has been twenty-five, and in one or two years going as low as sixteen and eighteen bushels. Many individual cases report as high as forty-five and even fifty-five bushels to the acre. But taking the lowest average, and with reasonable prices, there is no industry that will produce better profits. Owing to the modern and economical methods employed in cropping, harvesting, threshing, and marketing, as well as the special ease with which in this prairie country of Western Canada all this is accomplished, there is always a profit. The cost of raising an acre of wheat being placed by experts at from £1 to £1 10s. per acre, there have been cases in the past few years where as much as £5 per acre has been realised as a profit, while in many cases it is safe to put the profit at from £2 to £3 per acre.

While "Wheat is King," it is not the only cereal grown. The crops of oats, barley, and peas are wonderful, and the growth prodigious. A delegate writes: "100 bushels of oats and 60 bushels of barley per acre were common crops on well-tilled farms, and individual yields of 85 bushels of barley and 124 of oats were well authenticated."

Barley, as has been said, yields enormously. Owing to the bright sunshine and the absence of rain during harvest it presents a bright appearance and is sought after by brewers everywhere, bringing several cents a bushel more than that grown in other countries. Peas yield splendidly, and are entirely free from grubs and bugs.

Of roots and vegetables, it is admitted that in the growth of these products Western Canada has no superior. In the middle of September ripe tomatoes may be seen in great profusion, while they have been known to ripen as early as the first of July. Three cabbages weighed together 126 pounds, solid, sound, and fine grained as though they had weighed but six pounds each. Prize potatoes weighed 4½ pounds each, while those weighing three pounds were so plentiful that they attracted no attention. Beets, carrots, turnips, etc., also grow to an exceptionally large size.

Western Canada as a Dairying Country.

A Wonderful paying Industry, and Success always assured.

Dairying is a specially important industry in Western Canada, and year after year is assuming greater proportions. The market is an excellent one, and the advantages of the government creameries are fully proved. In Manitoba dairying is an exceedingly profitable industry. Last season's butter was all sold and shipped to the west to points in British Columbia, China, Japan, and the Yukon.

Mixed Farming in Western Canada.

It never fails, and hundreds of farmers have become wealthy in a very few years.

The farmer who not only raises wheat, but grows other grains, and has around him his herds of cattle, hogs, sheep, and poultry, is as near the achievement of success as it is possible to get. Horses and cattle thrive remarkably well on the prairie farms of Western Canada, and in proportion to the number kept there is probably more high-class stock there than in any other part of America. Some most valuable stallions are to be found there, very many of which are direct importations from Europe. Cattle in increasing numbers are to be met with all over the prairie. Almost every class of fine-bred cattle is to be seen, among which may be mentioned Shorthorns, Galloways, Polled Angus, Herefords, Jerseys, and Holsteins. The export of beef cattle is very large, and owing to the demand in the mining districts of British Columbia and the Yukon there is a splendid home market. Usually cattle are fed on the wild prairie hay, which in most parts grows in great abundance. It is generally acknowledged that both cattle and horses prefer and thrive better on wild prairie grass than on cultivated varieties. The quality of the beef is the richest, and under the circumstances the cost of production is reduced to a minimum. Not infrequently an animal whose total cost did not exceed more than a few shillings realises from £6 to £10. In some parts of Saskatchewan, Assiniboia, and Alberta cattle are prepared for market that have never seen the inside of a stable. On most Manitoba farms they are stabled from about the middle or end of November to the middle or end of March. In some instances they are turned out and allowed to run in the yards and "rustle" around the straw stacks.

Sheep.

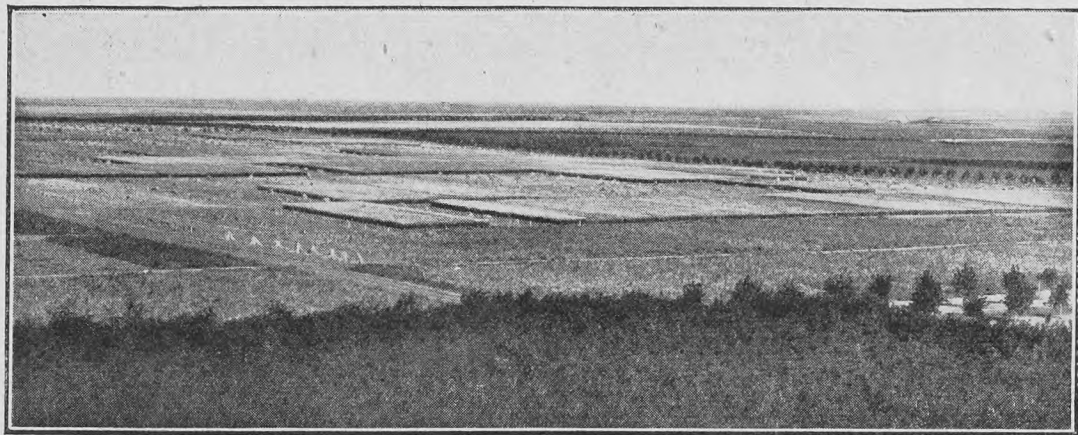
In many parts of Western Canada there are large sheep ranches, it having been found that this country is peculiarly adapted to sheep-raising. In other cases the business is gone into in a less pretentious way, but in either case it is very remunerative.

Hogs.

The export trade in hogs is increasing year by year, and they come next in importance to cattle with the farmer as a source of revenue. There are packing houses at different points, which create a local demand, in addition to which there is the demand from the mining districts and the lumber camp.

Poultry.

Poultry is a most profitable industry, but up to the present the local demand has been so great that it has absorbed the supply, and it has been found necessary to bring in large quantities from the east.



A Topographical View in Western Canada.

A PARADISE LITTLE UNDERSTOOD.

Prosperity and Plenty, and the bounty of Ceres everywhere.

One of Ohio's most able writers, who recently took a trip through Western Canada, speaks thus: "On every hand from Winnipeg west several hundred miles, wheat fields, almost as level as the floor, extend as far as the eye can reach. Most of the fields were still standing in the sheaf, and regiment after regiment of the golden grain in the shock feasted the eye. That this is a prosperous section hardly needs proof other than a view of the great stretch of wheat land and the harvested grain. But the large and attractive farmhouses, with frequently immense barns, and improvements of every nature, modern and substantial, speak most eloquently of the wealth of the section. Great harvesters were at work, a dozen of them at a time, one following the other, cutting an immense swath every time they passed. Immense grain elevators tower above their surroundings, as if watching the fair land, and jealous of their charge."

Province of Manitoba.

It is not the purpose here to deal more than briefly with the different Provinces that comprise Western Canada. The general conditions are so similar that they have been dealt with previously. The columns devoted to each of these Provinces and Districts will refer specially to those conditions that are peculiar to individual cases.

The Province of Manitoba was the first to demonstrate to the world that in those vast prairies, with their illimitable distances, was to be found the solution of the world's bread supply for future generations. It is not a quarter of a century ago that in many parts of this Province, which is credited with exporting as high as 60,000,000 bushels of wheat, there might have been seen bands of Indians and half-breeds in full chase after great herds of buffalo, mounted on their wiry and sinewy ponies.

To-day these plains are dotted with the bleached bones of this now almost extinct race of animals, the buffalo, and that is nearly all that is left to remind one that the country was not always the great agricultural country it is to-day.

Its population is largely English-speaking, many from the United States having made their homes there, for reasons which are best set out in the testimony they offer.

The farmer who has continued his farming operations for from six to ten years is in circumstances which many settlers in older countries were unable to reach after a lifetime of toil. The labourer is happy and contented, he is only waiting for an opportunity to get a farm of his own and become as independent as his employer. With a farm free from debt; his fields of ripening grain ready for harvest; with herds of cattle on his pasture lands, and flocks of sheep feeding on the hillside; dairy and poultry providing the household with groceries and many other comforts; schools for his children in the immediate neighbourhood; churches close at hand, and such other social advantages as he desires within easy reach—what more is required for a happy existence? And that is the condition of the average Manitoba farmer to-day. As a rule, he has had experience elsewhere; and if he is asked the question, the reply in almost every case will be, that he would not leave the country.



A Threshing Outfit.

Soil.

There is here, as in all other countries, a variety of soils, but what may be called the characteristic soil of Manitoba is a deep black argillaceous mold of fine texture.

success. In 1884, 180 families of Mennonites settled in the Morden district, having to borrow £43,000 before they could begin operations. In 1891 they had repaid the whole of these loans, with interest, and they are now quite free from debt and prosperous in every respect. They have now over 250,000 acres under cultivation, and they own, besides their houses, barns, implements, etc., 12,000 horses, 8,500 cows, and 11,000 young cattle. The original 180 families have increased by immigration and natural increase to 2,960 families, numbering 20,000 souls. Thus each family averages in possessions nearly 80 acres under cultivation, more than four horses, nearly three cows, and about four young cattle, besides house, implements, and land, all paid for and owned in fee simple. Considering that at present prices the 80 acres would bring the average family gross receipts for crops alone to considerably over £200, and besides that from the cows and young cattle they would have additional revenue for butter and beef, it will not be denied that they furnish an example of prosperity acquired under all the disadvantages of beginning under debt that it would be hard to equal in any other country in the world.

The Mennonites have been instanced, not because they are by any means the only or even the most brilliant examples of what has been done by settlers, but because from the statistics that have been gathered and are easily available, there is no difficulty in reducing the measure of their success to actual figures.

District of Assiniboia.

Specially adapted to Mixed Farming, having a Delightful Climate, and offering splendid inducements to Settlers.

The district of Assiniboia, lying between the Province of Manitoba and the District of Alberta, extends north from the international boundary to the 52d parallel of latitude, and contains an area of thirty-four million acres, has a length of about 450 miles east and west by 205 miles north and south. It is divided into two great areas—Eastern and Western Assiniboia—each of which has its own peculiar characteristics, the former being essentially a wheat-growing and mixed farming country, and the western part of the latter especially adapted for ranching. In both, minerals are found, and on the bars of the south branch of the Saskatchewan River, in Western Assiniboia, gold mining is profitably carried on.

The Centre of the Wheat Belt.

The eastern portion of Assiniboia, for a distance of some 120 miles west from its eastern boundary, is practically a continuation to the westward of the grain-growing areas of Manitoba, and although the soil is somewhat lighter than the deep black loam of the Red River Valley, it is very warm and productive. Within this portion of the district settlement has rapidly extended, and many thriving towns have sprung up along the main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway, among which may be mentioned Moosomin, Grenfell, Wolesley, Indian Head, and Qu'Appelle, and on the line of the Manitoba and Northwestern Railway, Saltcoats and Yorkton.

This portion of the country is especially suitable for mixed farming. Indeed, almost the entire population consists of farmers with small bunches of cattle and a few scores of acres of land under crop. Creameries are easily accessible, and thus wheat growing, dairying, and beef production, all on the same homestead, is a very common feature. There is a good market for all farm produce, and as a rule the farmers are well to do.

Railways.

The main line of the Canadian Pacific Railway extends east to west almost through the centre of Assiniboia, and branch lines of this road extend from Moose Jaw to the southeast corner of the district, and from Regina to the north through the central portion. The Manitoba and Northwestern Railway also extends into the northeastern portion of the district from Manitoba, and present requirements in the way of transportation are thus well provided for. Branch lines of these railways are certain to be constructed within a very short time, and they will open up a portion of the country along the Qu'Appelle River that is unsurpassed anywhere for mixed farming or the growth of cereals.

Rivers.

The South Saskatchewan River enters Assiniboia almost midway on its western boundary, and after flowing nearly due east for about two hundred miles, turns almost at a right angle to the north, leaving the district about the middle of its northern boundary. The Qu'Appelle River, the Assiniboine and White Sand rivers, all fed by small streams and creeks, are to the north, and the Souris River, the Pipestone Creek, Long Creek, and many minor streams to the south. The valleys along these rivers and creeks are specially adapted for mixed farming, and the open prairie beyond affords large areas for grazing. To the south is Moose Mountain, thirty miles in length.



A Western Canada Farmstead.

resting on a deep clay subsoil, which ranks among the very richest in the world; very rich, and stands more cropping without manure than any other surface known to agriculturists.

Water and Fuel.

Water and fuel are also very important considerations for the settler. The country is everywhere at easy distances intersected by creeks and rivers, and many lakes of varying dimensions exist, especially in the northern portion of the Province. Water can be secured almost anywhere by sinking wells of a moderate depth. Some of the creeks and rivers are well stocked with fish and wildfowl, affording amusement and supplying valuable articles of diet.

The Prosperity of the Farmer.

A Practical Illustration given of advantages of Farming in Western Canada.

Any part of the Province that it is desired to visit will give sufficient evidence, to satisfy all that those who have followed farming as a pursuit and given it anything like ordinary attention have made it a

from east to west, and fifteen from north to south. In parts this area is thickly wooded, and many local water-courses head there and run down to the surrounding plains.

The general aspect of the country is rolling prairie, dotted over with clumps of trees, usually found bordering lakes, streams, and meadows; in the hollows grow the heavy, luxuriant grasses where the farmer obtains his supply of winter hay. The principal grains grown are wheat and oats. The ordinary yield of wheat is from twenty to thirty bushels to the acre. All kinds of roots, too, are a sure crop. The soil is so rich that no fertilisers are necessary, so that in this direction a large amount of time and money is saved.

About the centre of the southern section of this portion a marked topographical feature, known as the Moose Mountain, occurs. This hill, or range of hills, which rises to a considerable elevation above the surrounding plains, is some thirty miles in length east and west and about fifteen miles north and south. Parts of the hills are thickly wooded, and many small local water-courses head therein and run down the surrounding plains. The country along the base of these hills offers many favorable locations for mixed farming, and there is a considerable settlement in the vicinity, with thriving villages starting at several points along the projected line of railway.

Eastern Assiniboia offers an opening to the poor man if he will work and exercise economy; for after a year or two of hard work he finds himself in possession of a home, all his own, free from the harassing conditions of a rented or mortgaged farm.

Thirty Thousand Head of Cattle.

Great herds of range cattle roam at will all over these seemingly boundless pastures. The profits to the stockmen are large, as can be readily imagined when it is shown that £8 per head is paid for steers on these ranges, animals that cost their owners only

from 300 to 500 it is unsurpassed. Horses winter out well, and can therefore be kept in large bands. Sheep require the same care as cattle, and are better in small flocks.

Dairy Farming, etc.

Any portion of this district will answer all the requirements for dairy farming. North of the Saskatchewan there is abundance of grass in many places. Pure water is in abundance everywhere. Nights are cool. The home demand has always been very large, so that dairy products command good prices.

The tide of immigration to the Saskatchewan district has been steadily increasing year by year, as the country has become better known, and doubtless it will receive a very considerable impulse with the spread of railway communication and the greater facility thus afforded for marketing.

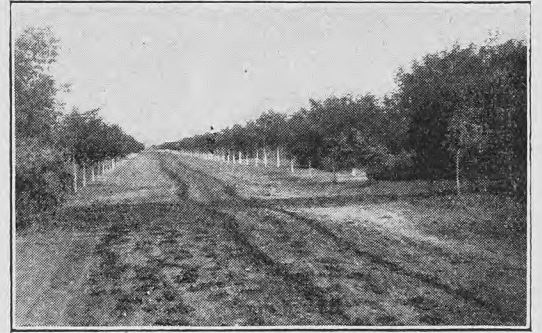
The District of Alberta.

FAVORED BY BREEZES FROM THE PACIFIC OCEAN, PRESENTS UNSURPASSED ADVANTAGES FOR THE MAN OF SMALL MEANS.

To the Capitalist there is no better Country on the face of the Globe.

The district of Alberta has a total length from north to south of some 430 miles and an average width from east to west of about 250 miles, and contains an area of 106,100 square miles. Alberta comprises within its limits two divisions, showing marked distinctions in topographical and climatic conditions. The southern is an open, rolling country, devoid of timber, except along the streams and in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains; while the northern half is more or less timbered throughout, the belts of timber being broken here and there by prairie openings, some of which are of considerable extent.

to stockmen are large, £7 and £9 per head being paid for steers last year on the ranges, the animals only costing their owners the interest on the original investment in stocking the ranch and their share of the annual round-up. Mixed farming is successfully carried on pretty generally throughout the district, and at various places the dairy industry is rapidly developing. Though a large portion of Southern Alberta is bare of timber for fuel, this lack is amply compensated for by an inexhaustible supply of coal of excellent quality, which crops out at many points along the steep banks of the streams that plentifully water the country.



A Canadian Country Road.

Attractive Climate.

The climate of Southern Alberta is one of its most attractive features, the winters being mild, with very little snow, and the summers hot and dry, the absence of rainfall during the late summer months causing the native grasses to become cured on the ground, retaining their nutritive qualities in such a manner that stock pastured thereon remain fat all winter. Cold and stormy weather is of course experienced at times during the winter months, but the prevailing warm winds which blow from the west, locally known as Chinook winds, rapidly dissipate any snow which falls, and for days at a time cause a rise in the thermometer to almost summer temperature.

Northern Alberta.

Northern Alberta comprises that great fertile valley stretching from about forty miles north of Calgary on for two hundred miles more past the Red Deer River, the Battle River, North Saskatchewan, and Sturgeon rivers. It is a country well-wooded and well-watered, where a settler going with little means does not need to expend his capital altogether to provide shelter for himself and his stock. If he has not timber on his own land he can for 25 cents get a permit from the Government and cut 1,800 lineal feet of building timber, four hundred roof poles, two hundred fence rails, and thirty cords of dry wood, and put up his buildings. The same regulations exist for Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Assiniboia. As for water, at a very high point in the prairie there is flowing out of the side of the hills and in the coulees springs of water that remain open the year round. The purest and best water can be obtained at from fifteen to thirty feet.

Lakes, lakelets, and ponds reflect the bright blue skies above, and the deep and magnificent valleys of the great Saskatchewan and other smaller, but not less beautiful, water courses lend boldness to a landscape of otherwise ideally pastoral prettiness. Not only when in verdure clad is the country lovely, for the white raiments of winter lend to the prospect a new and additional charm of indescribably pure beauty.



A Country School and its Pupils in Western Canada.

the interest on the original investment incurred in stocking the ranch, and their share in the cost of the annual round-ups.

The District of Saskatchewan.

Marvellous in production of Grain and Cattle, and with excellent Climatic Conditions. A wonderful development by Settlers from the United States.

Saskatchewan, lying north of Assiniboia, is the largest of the four provisional districts which were carved out of the territories by the Dominion Parliament in 1882. It includes in the south a small proportion of the great plains, and in its general superficial features may be described as a mixed prairie and wooded region, abounding in water and natural hay, and well suited by climate and soil for the raising of wheat, horned cattle, and sheep.

The crops consist of wheat, oats, barley, and potatoes. Turnips and all kinds of vegetables are raised successfully. Normal yield of wheat (Red Fyfe) about thirty bushels to the acre, in favourable seasons; one to one and a half bushels sown to the acre. Oats, about sixty bushels, from three sown to the acre. Barley has not been grown extensively, there being no demand for any quantity of this cereal in the district; but it has always given a good yield in favorable seasons. There has never been a failure of crops, and settlers enjoy a steady home market, at which they realize good prices for their products.

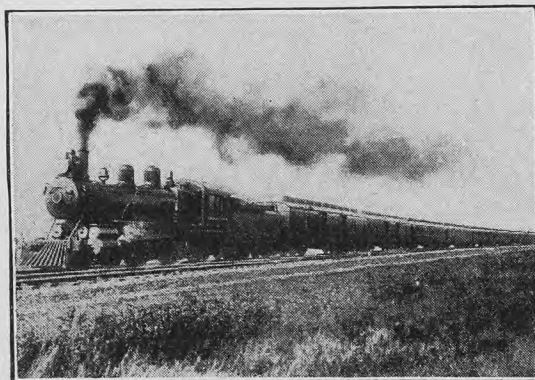
Stock-raising, Ranching, etc.

The country is remarkably well adapted for stock-raising, and large shipments are made annually. Cattle must be fed, and should be sheltered three months to four months every winter. For bands of

The advantages which the northern and southern portions of the district offer to the intending settler are so diverse in character, that it is customary to speak of them separately as "Northern Alberta" and "Southern Alberta." Limited space prevents speaking of these more fully, but those desiring the information will find it in pamphlets issued by the Government, and obtainable on application to any Government agent.

Ranching and Dairying.

Southern Alberta is essentially a ranching and dairying country, and offers unequalled opportunities for effort in that direction. The district is composed of high, open plains, broken by the valleys of numerous large streams which head in the Rocky Mountains and flow to the east, and the country becomes more or less rolling and hilly as the heads of these streams are approached. With good management, the profits



Canadian Train crossing the Prairies



A Western Canada Scene.

Inexhaustible supplies of coal underlie the whole country and crop out on the sides of the valleys, rendering the work of mining so cheap that the fuel is sold at the mouth of the pit to farmers for 50 cents a ton, whilst it is delivered in the bins of the householders of Edmonton at 6s. 8d. per 2,000 pounds.

Those who will succeed in Western Canada.

Just a Word of Advice to those who are about to Emigrate.

The first great demand is for persons with some capital at their disposal. For this class Western Canada affords unlimited openings. They can engage in agricultural pursuits, taking up free grant lands, buying railway lands, or purchasing the improved farms to be found in advantageous positions in every province; or in mining; or

in the manufacturing industries; or, if possessed of a settled income, living will be found to be much cheaper in Canada, with the benefits of a fine, healthy climate, magnificent scenery, abundant opportunities for sport, and facilities for education and placing children in life not to be excelled anywhere.

Agriculturists.

Persons of small capital and knowledge of agriculture often desire to enter upon farming pursuits. Before this is done experience should be acquired, either by hiring oneself out as a laborer or gaining experience in some other way. Then, when the necessary knowledge has been obtained, a farm may either be rented, purchased, or taken up as a free grant.

Clerks, shop assistants, and persons desiring such situations, are advised not to emigrate unless proceeding to appointments already secured or to join friends. Any demand for labor of these kinds is fully met on the spot. Encouragement is not held out to professional men, especially in cases where immediate employment is desired. There are always openings and opportunities for men of exceptional abilities with a little capital, but, generally speaking, the local supply of men is equal to the demand. Market gardeners and persons understanding the care of horses, cattle, and sheep will succeed.

Young Men Desiring Agricultural Experience.

The question is often asked in the old country if it is essential for young men, wishing to take up farms in Canada, but desiring before doing so to acquire knowledge of agriculture, to pay premiums, either to persons in the old country or in the Dominion, for that purpose. It may therefore be plainly stated that "no premiums are necessary," and it is advised that none be paid. Strong and healthy young men, from 18 to 21 years of age, who are prepared to accept for a time the hard work and surroundings more or less inseparable from a farm laborer's life, have no difficulty in getting employment in the spring; and the agents of the Government in Canada will assist them as far as possible in doing so without charge, although, of course, without accepting any direct responsibility. Being without experience, they will not get much

the agriculturist who intends to take up land for himself will arrive at the beginning of the season's operations. The agriculturist may, by getting in a crop of oats or potatoes during the month of May or the first week in June, contribute greatly to the support of himself and family during the first year. Or again, if the agricultural laborer arrives in summer, about harvest time, he will find great demand and high wages for his services during the harvest months, and he will have no difficulty in getting on well from this point. The farmer, too, who desires to take up land, if he comes in the summer time, may see the crops growing, and may thus have an opportunity to choose at leisure the most advantageous location. The summer and autumn months are the best for moving about the country in search of land—or, as it is commonly called, "land-hunting"—for a suitable spot on which to settle. Having selected it, he may proceed to erect his house and make preparations for living over the winter; and, if he means to do this, he may make his start with great advantage in the spring from being on the spot.

No person other than domestic servants are advised to go to Canada during the winter, unless proceeding to join friends, as work is not so readily procurable by new arrivals during that season as at other times of the year.

Some Interviews.

Hon. James A. Smart, Deputy Minister of the Interior of Canada.

Sent here by Hon Clifford Sifton, Minister of the Interior—In charge of the land of Western Canada—Speaks highly of Canada for British Settlement.

Since his arrival in Canada a few weeks ago, Hon. J. A. Smart has been interviewed by several of the leading London and Provincial papers. To a representative of Reuter's Agency Mr. Smart said:—

"The sentiment in Canada with regard to the movement of population is strongly favourable to the encouragement of Britishers. Canada is particularly desirous of opening up and developing by a sturdy class of settlers the vast territories included in the province of Manitoba and the North-West Territories and British Columbia, or what is to-day known as

lation. It is felt that in the interests of the Empire, Canada has not within the last twenty or thirty years received as large a proportion of Britishers as the conditions justify. Out of a total emigration to Canada during the past four years, of nearly 175,000 souls only about 45,000 were British, the balance, including a large number from the United States, being foreigners. While the latter have evinced a very keen desire to be recognised as British citizens, the Government of Canada believes that those who have always been under the British crown will naturally



A Western Canada Wheatfield.

feel a warmer and more sympathetic interest in the affairs of the Empire." The Deputy Minister at this point referred to the wonderful work done by the Canadians in South Africa, to the contingent that is now being raised, and in connection with it, emphasized the fact that among those who offered for service in these contingents were many who had within a few years moved from Great Britain to Canada. They had taken up their farms, had lived upon them, cultivated them, and made a success in the pursuit of farming and ranching. They had developed into powerful, strong, active men, fitted for the hardest outdoor service, and the history of the war tells the rest. The removal to Canada inspires and cherishes, and in no manner diminishes the loyalty and patriotism of the Britisher, who is even more ready than before to fight the battles for his country when the opportunity offers. The fresh air, the perfect freedom, the knowledge that a man is thoroughly master of his own holding, puts a life and an energy into his being that he never had before, and the Canadian people think that they are entitled to and deserve the hearty co-operation of Imperial statesmen in peopling and settling the vast virgin areas of the unsettled portions of this magnificent wheat-producing country; not only wheat producing, but those fertile plains have shown the possibility of being of enormous value to the Empire in all that is needed to supply the British market with its necessary food, whether it be cereal, vegetable, or animal.

Speaking further regarding the population, Mr. Smart said that from the census returns there were in Canada persons of British birth to the number of about 400,000, while in the United States the number of persons of British birth, according to the census of 1890, was over 3,000,000. To his mind, this is vastly disproportionate, and he saw no reason why, with the advantages and resources of Canada fully known, the movement of population should not be directed to the British possessions in North America. It will doubtless surprise many Britons to know that there has started a movement of population from the United States into Western Canada, which bids fair to be most unprecedented in the movement of people, and during the past three or four years has reached a total of upwards of 50,000. If these people see special advantages in forsaking their former allegiance and becoming British citizens in Canada, surely the Englishman, Scotchman, Welshman, and the Irishman, who loves his country, cannot fail to recognise that there are equal opportunities for him to succeed. Canada undoubtedly offers the greatest inducement for settlers on her vacant and most productive lands of all the new countries which are being opened up for settlement. With exceptionally low railway rates, with a magnificent climate, with the free grants of



A Prairie Farm—Town in the distance.

wages at the commencement of their employment, but as they acquire skill they will be able to command remuneration in proportion to the value of their work.

Any careful young man can, from the beginning, earn and save enough each year to make payment on, say, 160 acres of land at from 12s. to £1 per acre, as payments spread over ten years, and in these cases would be £14 and £25 respectively each year.

Besides the help required in the harvest fields there is a demand each season for strong, able-bodied men, accustomed to hard work on railroad construction.

Female Help.

It is impossible to supply the demand for female help throughout Manitoba and the North-West Territory. If it were possible and applications were asked from those desiring help, a thousand applications would be received in a brief period of time. The wages for such female help in farmers' homes would vary from £1 4s. to £2 a month. The experience of many farmers' wives has been that their servant girl is most likely, before many years pass, to get married to a neighbouring farmer and become mistress of her own home.

Married Men.

It is generally easy to find a situation for a married man without children, when husband and wife are both willing to engage in work; the husband as farm laborer, the wife to assist in the housework, or, in many instances, they may find work with a bachelor, when the wife takes full charge of the housekeeping. It is not so easy to find a situation for a married man with two or more children, as, at present, few farmers have a second house on the farm to accommodate such a family, and the farmhouse is not large enough to accommodate two families. A careful industrious married man, after one year's experience, often gets a situation to manage a farm for a resident of a town or village, everything being supplied to work the farm; the owner either paying him wages or giving him a share of the crop, which in most years amply pays for labor.

The Time to Emigrate.

Generally speaking, the best time to emigrate, for all classes, is the early spring. The agricultural laborer will then find his services in demand in the busy period that always comes during seed time; and

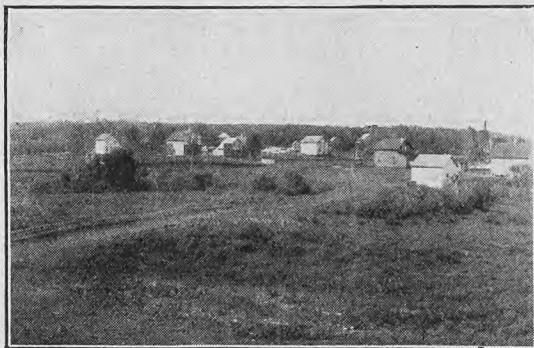
Western Canada, the present population of which approaches to nearly 500,000 people. In his opinion, this is by far the best and largest agricultural territory open to settlement possibly in the world. The magnificent crops of wheat and other cereals during the year 1901, and for a number of years previously, left no doubt whatever as to the capabilities of the country from an agricultural standpoint; and, notwithstanding the fact that the whole area under cultivation is less than three million acres—perhaps not over 1 per cent. of the area of the territory, including the new district of Athabasca—the returns will be about 110,000,000 bushels. When one considers that this is the production of possibly not more than fifty or sixty thousand farmers, many of whom have only within the last three or four years become located in the country, and consequently have not had an opportunity of bringing under cultivation all the land belonging to them, some idea may be gathered as to the possibilities of the country from the food producing standpoint. Why, in the face of this, British emigrants should seek their future homes in foreign countries, is one of the conundrums he could not understand. Yet, according to the returns of the Board of Trade, fully 56,000 to 75,000 Britishers went to live in the United States during the past year, against some 18,000 or 20,000 to the Cape of Good Hope, 12,000 or 13,000 to Canada, and a smaller number to Australia."

Speaking of emigration from the United States, Mr. Smart said:—

"It should be known by intending emigrants that the people of the United States who consider their personal interests foremost are beginning to understand, and appreciate the advantages offered for settlement in Western Canada, and upwards of 50,000 have within three or four years removed from the United States to Western Canada to engage in farming. He, therefore, hoped that under an active propaganda the British emigrant will fully understand and appreciate the advantages that are offered to him in moving to a country where he will continue to be under British institutions and at the same time, without question, make more material progress than he possibly could in any other country in the world."

In the course of another interview Mr. Smart said:—

"The desire of the Canadian people is that Canada should continue to be recognised as the leading British Colony in point of sentiment, area, and popu-



Prosperity in Western Canada.

one hundred and sixty acres of land, excellent crops and herds of cattle, very low rates of taxation, and with splendid social conditions, there is no country offers such magnificent opportunities. New lines of railway are projected as rapidly as the settlement warrants it, and there is sufficient land for all within easy approach to the line of railway. Several instances of the speedy success that has followed the pursuit of agriculture were indicated by Mr. Smart, one of them being that of a Mr. Joseph Glenn, of Indian Head in the district of Assiniboia, about 250 miles west of Winnipeg. Last year Mr. Glenn bought a quarter section of land, or 160 acres, for £50. This

year the entire section was under crop. Mr. Glenn allowed expenses in connection with the crop as follows: Breaking, at £1 per acre, £160; seed grain, £28 4s.; labour of seeding, £10; binder twine, £16 4s.; harvesting, £70; delivery to elevator, £42; incidentals, £32; a total of £393 3s., including the cost of the farm. The yield was 7,447 bushels of wheat, which sold at 2s. 7½d., realising £810 3s. 5d. After all expenses and the farm were paid for, Mr. Glenn thus had a clear profit of about £420. The yield averaged 47 bushels of wheat to the acre. Mr. Smart informed the reporter that he had placed in the hands of Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Commissioner of Emigration, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W., the representative of the Department and General Agent for the Immigration Branch of the Department, a score of letters from farmers, showing the great prosperity that had followed their pursuit as farmers.

The *Daily Mail* of the 18th January had the following interview with Mr. Smart, who was sent by Hon. Mr. Sifton, Minister of the Interior, specially to place before the British people, the claims of Canada as a field for emigration:—

Mr. J. A. Smart, Deputy Minister of the Interior of Canada, is in London on a special mission connected

report on the prospects for successful settlement. He says: "I found the country a rich, black loam, varying from 12 inches to 3 feet deep; the crops are simply something enormous; wheat and oats by actual measurement often standing 5 feet in height. I have been a farmer for forty years, and consider myself a fair judge of the yield of grain, and I saw wheat that would yield 50 bushels per acre, and oats that would yield 100 bushels per acre; not one alone, but a good many. As for root crops and garden truck, in no country have I ever seen their equal for all kinds. As a stock country it has no equal. I saw hay meadows containing from 10 to 100 acres, the grass standing 4 feet high, and would often cut 3 to 4 tons to the acre. At Saskatoon, Rosthern, and Duck Lake I found some very fine farming country, so good that I found a party of Americans from Minnesota buying land for themselves—one party buying 12 sections and the other 20 sections of land for themselves, which they proposed to improve at once.

"I have travelled over twenty-three different States and Territories in our Union, and never in my lifetime have I ever seen such magnificent crops and especially as fine a stock country."



Another Evidence of Prosperity in Western Canada.

with emigration to Canada, and has come furnished with a mass of facts and figures which should convince all intending emigrants that there is room and to spare, and boundless opportunities of success in the vast western territories of Canada.

Mr. Smart says that hitherto the question of encouraging emigration to Canada has been dealt with in a desultory, spasmodic manner, but it will be the business of himself and his colleague to reorganise a special information bureau at the offices of the Canadian Government in Victoria Street, Westminster, and prosecute in a persistent and systematic way the work of peopling the unoccupied land waiting for settlers.

"It is a curious and lamentable fact," said Mr. Smart, "that there is among English people a vast amount of ignorance about their nearest large Colony. Canada is not a land of eternal snow, and its inhabitants do not go about for the greater part of the year clad in furs and skins, as seems to be the general impression over here. It is quite funny to see the statements—and even pictures—in high-class newspapers giving an entirely erroneous idea of the rigours of the Canadian climate."

Mr. Smart pointed out that of 175,000 persons who emigrated to Canada during the last four years, only 45,000 were British, while in the same time over 50,000 citizens of the United States had moved into Western Canada, and the balance Europeans.

"It is a curious reflection," continued Mr. Smart, "that Great Britain is practically the only country in Europe that does not in the least concern itself with the emigration of its surplus population. Emigrants are allowed to go whither they please—perhaps to drift into alien countries—instead of, as in the case of Germany, being encouraged and assisted to go to the Colonies."

According to the last census returns, there were in Canada persons of British birth to the number of 600,000, while in the United States there were over 3,000,000. Taking into consideration all the advantages of the Canadian provinces, Mr. Smart sees no reason why this disproportion should not be materially diminished.

The Testimony of Settlers.

Opinion of Settlers who have gone from the United States to Canada.

In a letter to the Reed City, Michigan, *Clarion*, Mr. Jas. G. Armstrong, of Melford, Saskatchewan, says, writing on May 27th, 1901:—

"This is a fine country for a poor man, as he can go out on the hay slews and cut all the hay he needs. He turns his cattle out on the prairie, and when he is not using his horses he turns them out also. There is such an abundance of food they never wander away. This has been truly called the 'garden of the west.' With fruits and flowers, lakes and streams, fish and fowl, beautiful rivers, tracts of timber and mountains, what more does a man want?"

Found Americans Buying Land at Saskatchewan, Western Canada.

A Michigan Man is Well Pleased.

Mr. S. K. Lent was a delegate sent from the farmers of Allegan County, Michigan, to Western Canada, to

A Former Resident of Minnesota writes of Western Canada.

In a letter to the Department of the Interior, Ottawa, Canada, Mr. Charles T. Grace, formerly of Morris, Minnesota, United States, writes of the Saskatchewan district, in Western Canada, and says: "Our party of five each homesteaded and bought railway land, amounting altogether to 1,760 acres. To say that we were highly pleased would be putting it lightly, as we were there for business, and formed our conclusions from what we saw and from the natural inducements of the country. One of these is a very rich black soil, with a deep yellow clay subsoil, such as you will see in central or northern Illinois, and as I was raised on a farm in that State, I think I am competent to make a fair comparison. Another one is an abundant supply of good pure water, which is obtained at a very reasonable depth, and does not cost a man half the price of his farm to get a good well of water, as it does in some places. Another great inducement is a sufficient amount of timber for building purposes, and for fuel, which are all free to the actual settlers. These three natural inducements, connected with a splendid climate, will no doubt in time make it one of the best farming countries to be seen, and from the number of people that are now going there from so many States, thereby giving it, in the start, the advantage of the experiences of a variety of farmers of different methods of farming, seems to me, as it



Harvesting the Golden Grain of Western Canada.

would naturally appear to any fair-minded man, to lead to results which are only natural but of the best. Taxes are only nominal; the Government protects the timber and coal for the use of the settlers; and the Government assists in the support of the public schools. We saw the finest grade of cattle there that can be found in any country, and at that period of the year (June 1st) they were in first-class condition, and having almost made their own living throughout the winter, which is one of the most wonderful characteristics of any country that we have ever heard of, and

was truly surprising to us. Cattle, hogs, and good horses command the very best prices, and it may appear somewhat surprising to you, as it did to us, that the fact is that you get cash for everything you have to sell. I talked with a great many men who were there for the same purpose we were, and they all had the same opinion of the country, and said they could not see a way to fail, that is, if they use the same effort as they would in any other farming country. A man of small capital could not expect to go and start a big ranch, such as you see in some parts of the country, but if he had enough to pay rent for a farm in a country where it is thickly settled, and where land and rents are high, he could invest in a few hogs, and with the crops he can raise on land free of rent, if you consider it fairly, I don't see how you can figure out to lose, besides having a home. You can raise almost anything, not excepting such fruits as strawberries, raspberries, and wild June berries, which grow in abundance. These luxuries, as I call them, with plenty of such game as prairie chicken and wild duck, and plenty of fish, seems to me, ought to be all anyone could wish for in his line."

Another Minnesota Farmer writes of Western Canada.

He saw there the finest Wheat, Oats and Barley he ever saw.

Writing from Independence, Minnesota, United States, Mr. James Erikson says, after having prospected Western Canada agricultural lands:—

"Having heard a lot about Western Canada, I decided to take a trip there to investigate matters. The country is generally more or less rolling, of specially heavy timber there is none, but heavy enough for building material and fuel. There are also large beautiful lakes swarming with all kinds of fish, that I cannot here very well describe, also game. The country is specially adapted for cattle-raising, and where hay can be cut with great advantage and little labour; the Government itself runs the creameries with great profit to the farmer.

"The plentifulness of nature's gifts to the country in this part of the world is rich. I saw there the finest wheat, rye, and barley I ever saw, and oats that weighed 48 lbs. per bushel, such oats it will be hard to find a match for. To cut wood for fuel is hardly worth the trouble, for coal can be bought at 4s. per ton, near Edmonton. I consider this country very suitable for people who wish to carry on mixed farming."

South Dakota (United States) sends Settlers to Canada.

ROSTHERN, July 8th, 1900.

TO FRANK PEDLEY,

Superintendent of Immigration, Ottawa, Canada.

SIR,—We, the undersigned settlers in Saskatchewan, beg to submit the following letter. We came from Springfield, Bonhomme County, South Dakota, in the spring of 1899, and settled where we now reside. We had considerable crop last year we put in on new breaking, and it was very good, and this year, 1900, our crop is excellent; our wheat will yield about 20 bushels to the acre, the oats and barley are also very good, and our potatoes and root crop all that could be desired. We consider this a fine country, and are glad we came, as our prospects could not be better. A poor man will get a start in this country much quicker than in Dakota.—Yours respectfully,

JOHN H. SCHULTZ, H. A. GOSHEN, S. GORS.
B. H. DIRKS, C. D. UNRY, P. UNRY, A. RATZLIEF.
All from South Dakota, U.S.A.

A Specimen Letter. One of many that might be printed.

THOMPSON, N.D., U.S., July 16th, 1900.

I have just returned from Wetaskiwin, Alta., and must say I was much surprised at what I saw while there. In my opinion, it is one of the richest countries in the North-west. I found all kinds of grain growing (and as far advanced) as can be grown in the northern States—wheat, oats, barley, and rye were a fine crop, while the hay crop was simply immense. I never

saw as fine a lot of cattle, and they bring good prices. In a few months you will be able to find me settled on a homestead up in that country.—Respectfully,

FRED. FREEMAN.

H. T. BERSGLUND, of Park River, North Dakota, U.S., says: I have been up in Alberta and found everything beyond expectation. Alberta is a splendid district for mixed farming. I located upon land in township 48, range 25, and will leave here as soon as I possibly can get ready.

Miscellaneous Opinions.

Men with Credit and Influence.

From Kansas, Indiana, Michigan, and Missouri make Visits to the Saskatchewan Valley.

The names attached to this report are those of men in whom their neighbours place every confidence, and what they say has weight in their community. The extracts are made from a report that they made of their trip to the Saskatchewan Valley, Western Canada.

We were anxious to see the Saskatchewan district, and our conductor has constantly impressed upon us the inducements which each district of the Territories offers to the Western American farmer who wants land and a good home; but after carefully weighing them one with another we have come to the conclusion that to a farmer, with limited means, there is now no available region we have seen so inviting in several ways as the great stretch of country extending from Saskatoon between the two rivers eastward to the town of Prince Albert and onward across the peninsula and from Chakastapasin Indian reserve to Stony Creek, which was the limit of our journey eastward.

All the districts we have examined are certainly first-class farming and grazing lands, and in fact we have seen very little poor land anywhere. The Prince Albert district is largely unsettled, and is good for grain and is full of natural shelter for stock. The herbage, full of pea vine and vetch and deep grass, is about the best we have seen, and the ponds and lakes are so plentiful that there can never be any scarcity of water. It must become a great dairy country, and everywhere we

poor farmers to do well in. We would recommend any one looking for good land and homes for themselves and families to go to Canada.

R. W. WALLACE, Byron, Oklahoma.

W. E. KEEFER, Miles, Indian Territory.

An Inspiring Letter from Regina, Assiniboia, Western Canada, written by a former Resident of Kansas, U.S.

According to promise, I send you this letter to let you know how we are getting along in this country, which is Assiniboia, N.W.T. We rented a farm and put in a crop, and had a very good crop considering the dry weather; wheat averaged 35, oats 40 bushels per acre. We sold our wheat for 72 cents per bushel and our oats for 50 cents. This land was all summer-fallowed, and we had to break and backset enough to pay for the work already done. Our wheat and oats were extra good, all graded No. 1. We commenced sowing wheat on the 9th of April. We sowed our oats the 26th of May and cut the same the last week in August. I sold some of that oats to-day at the Glasgow House, Regina, and a two-bushel sack weighed a little over 100 pounds; that is the kind of oats we raise here. George Thompson, De Mott, and Hunt, all from Missouri, were here, and helped us harvest them, and can vouch for the truth of this statement: their present address is Hopkins, Mo. There is no better wheat ground in America. I saw some men that were along with you in Regina from Oklahoma. They went out to Brown's Farm, north of Regina 13 miles, to see the wheat on that farm, and they told me that in fact it was the best wheat they ever saw. I am satisfied that any industrious man can make a good living here. Vegetables of all kinds do well here. I never saw a better quality of potatoes. I am well pleased with the country so far. One can get 160 acres of good land for 10 dols., and agents' fees, which is 2 dols., and when this is paid you have a farm of your own. I am sorry I did not come here sooner. We have a section of land, all told, my sons and myself. I expect we will have a Canadian

The above letters are selected because they are from people who were formerly residents of the United States; they have had the experience of the farmer in the United States, and are probably in a better position than any other class to speak with a large degree of knowledge. But these letters are but a few of thousands that are in the hands of Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Commissioner of Emigration for Canada, 17, Victoria Street, London, England. In addition to these there are scores of letters from settlers who have gone to Western Canada, which may be had on application to the above source, but which space will not permit to be published in these columns. The idea of publishing letters of settlers from the United States is to prove that there is no reason for the settler from Great Britain or Ireland going to the United States in preference to Canada.

What Sir Wilfrid Laurier said at a Montreal Banquet.

The best of the bone and sinew of the United States is going to Canada.

Speaking at a banquet at the city of Montreal recently, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said:—

"It has been my privilege during the last few weeks, to cross and recross the continent from Quebec to Victoria, and from Victoria to Halifax, and to see some of that immense wealth that we have in the North-West Territories; to see the plains covered with stacks and stooks of wheat; to see the sulky-plow and the threshing machine at work at the same time, and to see the wonderful possibilities that we have in that distant part of our Dominion. There is a new movement which I have seen in that direction. For the last sixty years or so the movement of population on this continent has been from north to south. For a great many years the United States has received the best of our bone and sinew. Now a change has taken place, and we are going to receive the best of the bone and sinew of the American States. For a great many years our young men have emigrated to the United States. Now the yeomanry of the United States are emigrating by shoals to the virgin soil of the North-West Territories, and they will be well received; they will not be treated like outlanders, and deprived of civil and religious rights. On the contrary, we will be glad to receive them, to share with them what we have, to grant possession of our soil, to make them British citizens, and to make them feel that British institutions are infinitely superior to the much-vaunted institutions of the American Republic." (Loud cheers.)

Farming in Canada.

The opinion of one of England's important newspapers.

The *Norfolk Daily Standard* of a recent date says:— "Whatever may be the position of agriculture in the United Kingdom, Canada, our premier colony, seems at least to have no cause for complaint. Another bountiful harvest has been gathered in that country, and in no part have the returns been so satisfactory and the prosperity so marked as in Manitoba and the adjoining prairie territories, where alone some 50 million bushels of wheat, more than the entire crop of the United Kingdom, is available for export. Thousands of settlers from this country and Europe, and curiously, but significantly, from the United States, are arriving, for whom both free and cheap land is available in all parts. Living is cheap, taxes nominal, and expanding local and export markets are available for any products that are raised at remunerative prices. The average standard of intelligence of those already settled and those who arrive is a high one. A paternal Government stimulates practical agricultural education in a manner that would surprise us. Government experimental farms, both regional and local, are in operation; production on co-operative lines is encouraged by precept and example; cold storage transportation from the farm to the market on rail and steamers, subsidised, and new markets nursed and developed in a practical spirit with admirable results. The large and growing industrial position of Canada, already entering the exporting stage, is a distinguishing feature of that colony. It is a factor of the highest economic value, as it steadies progress, and renders the country less susceptible to violent fluctuations of fortune, to which a purely industrial or a purely agricultural community is periodically exposed.

A correspondent of the *Times*, who sends a few sample leaves of tobacco grown in the open air at Prince Albert, on the banks of the Saskatchewan river, in the North-West Territories of Canada, writes:—

"Many people are of opinion that this part of our Empire is cold, unproductive, and inhospitable. I trust the accompanying evidence may afford some proof that such is not the case. On November 1st violets were growing in profusion in our gardens here, and to-day, the 13th, we have beautiful sunshine and clear, bracing air. Since last April there have been long, sunshiny days, cool nights, generous rains, and as a result of such providential beneficence, along with a remarkably productive soil and the industry of a comparatively limited population, there are over



Drawing Western Canada's Golden Grain to Market.

went where there were settlements the stock was rolling fat and much of it, though not all, was well bred.

From what we are informed by the oldest settlers, there are no blizzards in this district, and the average snowfall does not exceed two feet, and so well sheltered is the country generally, that in an ordinary winter they allow two and three-year-old cattle and horses to remain out.

We shall spare no pains to influence farmers whom we intimately know to come with us, or after us as soon as they can dispose of their property. We can truthfully say that this whole Western country is fully equal if not better than our best States, in soil and production generally, and is blest, we perceive, with a free Government quite as good as our own, with an excellent school system, and facilities of railway transport already developed or near at hand. That upon arrival here they will find themselves amongst a friendly people with whom they will speedily assimilate and become, as we ourselves intend to be, good and loyal citizens of Canada.—Yours respectfully,

L. E. COLLINS, Bronson, Kansas; THOS. IRELAND, Bronson, Kansas; D. M. McDONALD, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.; A. E. CROW, Danville, Indiana; J. C. SAUNDERS, Skidmore, Mo.

What Delegates from Oklahoma and Indian Territory, United States, think of the Country.

WINNIPEG, November 2nd, 1901.

Western Canada far surpasses any idea one could form of it, the large tract of splendid prairie, good soil, &c.; commencing in the eastern portions, with level plains, and gradually the further one goes north and west, changing into a rolling, well watered, somewhat timbered plateau; it is really the best country for a farmer we have ever seen. Grains of all kinds mature, and the samples cannot be improved on. Stock seems to be in its native element, as it certainly thrives better in Western Canada than with us in the south. It seems surprising that with all the unlimited supply of good country here, that so much of it is yet going a-begging. There are homes for millions of poor people; in fact, it is a country for

Missouri here of our own if all come for whom I have entered land at the Dominion Land Office.—Yours,

THOMAS HEPBURN.

An Iowa Man endorses his opinion of Western Canada by Putting 2,000 dols. in Wheat. Says would not take 10,000 dols. for it To-day.

Mr. Segur was one of the best known farmers in Iowa. He writes to the Iowa Agent of the Canadian Government, saying:—

"I have just got back from Alberta, where I moved with my family last spring. We like the country well. I can illustrate what I think of it best by saying that I have just put in two thousand dollars, and I would not leave the country and my prospects for ten thousand dollars."

Kansas, Missouri and Oklahoma Delegates are satisfied.

The Honourable,
The Minister of the Interior, Ottawa.

SIR,—As part of a delegation visiting your country for the purpose of learning about the resources and future prospects of settlers, we beg to report that the country presents prospects far in advance of our most sanguine expectations. For those desiring to engage in ranching, or in mixed farming, there are splendid openings here where grasses are plentiful and water abundant, while those desiring wheat lands can be satisfied, if such thing is possible. Wheat and oats in stock and stack and the finest of vegetables is the best evidence of the productiveness of the soil. The delegation was in charge of Mr. Chas. Tomlin, who attended to our every want, made no misrepresentations, and is thoroughly posted in general information about the country.

WM. B. WILSON, Caldwell, Kansas; J. B. GLOVER, Renfrew, Oklahoma; A. A. GRADOLF, Klierer, Mo.; R. W. WALLACE, Byron, Oklahoma; T. C. LEONARD, Peabody, Kansas; P. C. COOK, California, Mo.

60,000,000 bushels of wheat for export from the Canadian West this year. This land truly is destined to be the granary of the Empire. In the North-West Territories alone, consisting of Alberta, Assiniboia, and Saskatchewan, we have 300,000 square miles of land of unsurpassed fertility. A square mile contains 640 acres, so the above area contains about 192,000,000 of acres—an enormous agricultural section. If a settler's taste is for ranching he can go to the foothills of the Rocky Mountains in Alberta; if wheat growing, mixed farming, dairying, cattle raising, etc., are more to his choice, then Eastern Assiniboia, Northern Alberta, and the great Saskatchewan valley are open to him. In Saskatchewan alone there are over 100,000 square miles of splendid rich soil open for settlement. The new trans-continental railroad—the Canadian Northern—is being pushed through the Saskatchewan valley on towards Alberta, the Rockies, and the Pacific Ocean. This will be a great thoroughfare, with connections affording communication from sea to sea, from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Every settler can get 160 acres of land free, and thus become a landowner for himself. Prospective emigrants from the old land should look carefully into the prospects and capabilities of the Canadian North-West. Here is a land where every man of energy can make a home and lay up riches. He lives under the old flag, enjoys the liberty of British institutions, the protection of British laws, and around his own hearthstone he may smoke the pipe of peace with some of our Saskatchewan tobacco."

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales on Emigration to Canada.

"No one—who has had the privilege of enjoying the experience which we had during our tour—could fail to be struck with one all-prevailing and pressing demand—the want of population. Even in the oldest of our Colonies (Canada) there were abundant signs of this want. There are great tracts of country yet unexplored, hidden wealth calling for development, vast expanses of virgin soil ready to yield profitable returns to settlers; and all this can be enjoyed under conditions of healthy life, liberal laws, and free institutions, in exchange for the overcrowded cities, and almost hopeless struggle for existence which, alas! too often, is the lot of many in the Old Country I would appeal to my fellow countrymen at home to prove the strength of the attachment of the Motherland to her children by sending to them only of her best.—Extract from H.R.H. the Prince of Wales's speech at the Guildhall, December 7th, 1901.



Wheat Arch erected in Winnipeg in honour of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

High Prices Prevail.

The Western people hardly realise the fact that prices are higher than ever before. The reason for this is that comparisons are made with last year and with prices across the line. Last year the crop was so small that there was practically no export business, and prices were for home consumption, consequently they were higher.

The prices were even 2c. higher than for No. 1 hard wheat at Duluth, for the simple reason that Duluth wheat was wheat for export, and that was on an export basis.

The proper comparison in prices lies with this year's crop and the crop of 1899, which was the last big crop year of the West. The highest price obtainable for No. 1 hard wheat for export two years ago was 65½c., and for that year the Manitoba exporters had to take lower prices owing to the large amount being exported from the States. The crop on the other side this year is small, and the prices quoted for No. 1 hard at New York are higher than No. 1 hard Manitoba wheat. Knowing this the Western farmers realise that prices this year are high.

Money is Plentiful.

The benefits to accrue will be felt all over Canada. In Winnipeg, the supply centre for the great wheat district—the merchants and wholesalers are now reaping their harvest. Money is plentiful—accounts are being promptly met, and old scores from last year are being wiped off the slate. Taking 50c. per bushel as the average price paid, which is a very conservative estimate, the amount of money already realised would be about 16,000,000 dols.

The effect of the good prices is already seen on the farms. Farm houses are being improved, barns enlarged, and in the westerly district, new granaries are going up. The big wheat crop is proving a splendid advertisement for Western Canada. Agriculturists from the South have been arriving in large numbers to look over available lands, and the acreage next year will be largely increased over that of this year.

50,502,000 Bushels of Manitoba Wheat

The Official Crop Returns show an
Astonishing Yield.

34,676,800 of other grains.

High Prices accompany the Big Crop—
Money is Plentiful and Farmers
are Busy.

Winnipeg, Man., December 11th.—The annual crop report of the Manitoba Government issued to-day, shows the total yield for the province for the past season to be as follows:—

Wheat, 50,502,000 bushels.
Oats, 27,796,000 bushels.
Barley, 6,536,000 bushels.
Flax, rye, and peas, 345,000 bushels.
Total grain crop, 85,179,800 bushels.
Potatoes, 4,797,000 bushels.
Other roots, 2,925,000 bushels.
Amount of land already ploughed for next year's crop, 1,476,000 acres.
Poultry disposed of by farmers: Turkeys, 77,220; geese, 33,900; chicken, 306,000.
Dairy produce, aggregate, 926,300 dols. in value.
Live stock sold: Horses, 142,000; cattle, 263,000; sheep, 23,000; pigs, 94,600.

The hay crop has been exceedingly abundant. Not only has the wheat yield this year been larger than ever before realized by the farmers of Manitoba and the North-Western Territories, but prices have been so satisfactory, owing to the higher export value on hard wheat, that the benefits arising from the big crop have been enormous.

The crop this year is away ahead of all previous records. Up to date there have been approximately 32,500,000 bushels handled. Of this amount 20,000,000 was exported up to December 5th, when navigation closed.

Inspector Horn, the chief grain inspector for the Dominion, shows by his figures, from September 1st to December 5th, that he inspected that amount as passing through Winnipeg. Another million and a half bushels of wheat went east in flour milled by the mills west of Winnipeg, and not including the two big milling companies, Ogilvie's and the Lake of the Woods.

The balance of the thirty-two millions that has been handled is now in the interior and terminal elevators. This amount is 10,500,000 bushels. Along the Canadian Pacific Railway points there is now 9,000,000 bushels, and 1,500,000 at C.N.R. points. Wheat is now piling up at Port Arthur and Fort William; but at the close of navigation the bins were practically emptied by the last vessel sailing eastwards. The movement will keep up till next May, with the wheat already threshed, when the wheat (and there is a big percentage) still in the stocks will be threshed out.

A Look into the Future.

"The financial results from this year's crop will, I think, bring forward this small province of Manitoba as one of the richest agricultural districts of the world to-day, and less than one-tenth of the fertile lands are under cultivation. The day is not very far distant when Manitoba will be producing as much wheat as the entire spring wheat crop of the United States. At least, I hope to live to see that day."—Mr. F. W. Thompson, General Manager of the Ogilvie Milling Co.

A Bumper Wheat Yield.

Farmers of Manitoba and the North-West
raised 60,000,000 bushels for Export.

Paying off Mortgages.

Received 12,000,000 dols. more for
Crops this year than was
realised in 1900.

Special to the "Record Herald," Chicago.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 14th.—This year has proved a bumper one for the farmers of Manitoba and the North-West Territories. It is estimated that 60,000,000 bushels of wheat have been harvested by them for export. In the Hartney district of Manitoba eight farmers produced 140,000 bushels of the best quality of wheat. One of these farmers, Cowan, produced 18,000 bushels of wheat, besides oats and barley; another harvested 14,000 bushels, a third 13,000 bushels of wheat and 10,000 of oats. The farmers of Manitoba have received 12,000,000 dols. more this year for their wheat crop than they realised last year.

The railways of the West are congested by the enormous quantities of produce which they are called upon to move. The total grain crop of Manitoba alone, as given in a crop bulletin just issued by the Manitoba Government, was 85,179,858 bushels, of which wheat represents 50,500,000, and oats nearly 28,000,000.

Personally-Conducted Parties.

Trans-Atlantic Excursions to the Farm
Lands of Western Canada Will Start
from England Every Two Weeks.

It has been decided, in view of the large number of applications which have reached the Emigration Office of the Canadian Government at 17, Victoria Street, London, to at once arrange for eight or ten personally-conducted parties from the British Isles to Canada. These will include persons going to any of the large cities of Eastern Canada, as well as Manitoba and the North-West Territories, the ultimate destination being Calgary or Edmonton. It is intended that these parties shall sail every alternate week from Liverpool, via Halifax and St. John, and the parties will be placed in charge of representatives of the Canadian Government, who are thoroughly conversant with all the details of the journey, as well as having a knowledge of the great Canadian West, so that they will be able to give the fullest information. The first party will sail about the first week in March, and the others will follow every alternate week during March and April. Applications are to be received at the office of the High Commissioner by all persons desiring to join the parties.

Persons desiring further information can communicate with Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Emigration Commissioner, 17, Victoria Street, London.